Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) A data coincident method among elements which connect with other elements located in a nearby area, comprising the steps of:

a first step for determining whether or not a previously defined event as a starting trigger of a coincidence processing has occurred with respect to one of said elements if an established time arrives or a time period of an established cycle has elapsed since the execution of previous information coincidence processing;

a second step for acquiring a group of said elements corresponding to said one of said elements if said previously defined event has occurred at the first step

a third step for transmitting a coincidence request by wireless communication to said group of elements if said previously defined event has occurred at the first step;

a fourth step for one of said elements to transmit a common data by wireless communication in response to said coincidence request at the third step;

a fifth step for determining whether or not said common data for one of the elements must be updated according to the largest number of the common data and

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significance level corresponding to a data update obtained from a group of the

elements at the fourth step; and

  a sixth step for updating said common data for one of the elements by using

the common data held among the largest number of the common data and

significance level obtained from the group of the elements at the fourth step ~~using~~

~~data held among~~, being a majority of said elements, and returning to said first step,

  whereby if all of the data obtained from the group of the elements at the fourth

step are not coincident, coincidence processing is repeated until all of the data is

coincident.

  29. (Previously Printed) The data coincident method according to claim 28,

wherein said majority is determined to be data obtained a largest number of times at

the second step.

  30. (Previously Printed) The data coincident method according to claim 28,

wherein said previously defined event as a starting trigger of a coincidence

processing is at least one of an entry or withdrawal of said one of said elements.

  31. (Previously Printed) The data coincident method according to claim 28,

wherein an acquisition of said group of said elements in the second step, is made by

using a survival signal which each element periodically transmits through a

transmission means attached to each element.

32. (Previously Printed) The data coincident method according to claim 28, wherein said common data in the fourth step is at least one of an element's price or an element's effective term held in an integrated circuit (IC) tag attached on each element.

33. (Previously Printed) The data coincident method according to claim 28, further comprising after fourth step:

a seventh step for said elements to receive said common data;

wherein only data obtained at the seventh step are used in a determination at fifth step.

34. (Previously Printed) The data coincident method according to claim 28, wherein said previously defined event as a starting trigger of a coincidence processing is an access to said common data.

35. (Currently Amended) The data coincident method according to claim 28, wherein each element has an integrated circuit (IC) tag attached and said common data is held by the IC Tag tag of each element.

36. (New) The data coincident method according to claim 28, wherein the significance level is determined corresponding to the number of data updates.

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37. (New) The data coincident method according to claim 36, wherein the

significance level may be increased upon the number of the data update.

38. (New) The data coincident method according to claim 28, wherein the

significance level is determined in accordance with data update time.

39. (New) The data coincident method according to claim 38, wherein the

significance level of late update data may be increased.

40. (New) A element composing included in a distribution system of which

element may be connected with other elements located in a nearby areas,

comprising:

a first module for determining whether or not a previously defined event as a

starting trigger of a coincidence processing has occurred wit respect to one of said

elements if an established time has arrived or if a time period of an established cycle

has elapsed since the execution of previous information coincidence processing;

a second module for acquiring a group of said elements corresponding to said

one of said elements if said previously defined event has occurred at the first

module;

a third module for transmitting a coincidence request by wireless

communication to said group of elements if said previously defined event has

occurred at the first module;

a fourth module for one of said elements to transmit a common data by

wireless communication in response to said coincidence request at the third module;

a fifth module for determining whether or not said common data for one of the

elements must be updated according to the largest number of the common data and

significance level corresponding to a data update obtained from a group of the

elements at the fourth module; and

a sixth module for updating said common data for one of the elements by

using the common data held among the largest number of the common data and

significance level obtained from the group of the elements at the fourth module

elements,

a seventh module for repeating the coincidence processing until all of the data

is coincident if all of the common data obtained from the group of the elements at the

fourth module are not coincident.